accummulation of dirty water at Railway station platform number three of Bahadurgarh Railway Station, district Rohtak, Haryana, near National Capital Region for the last many years due to which dirtiness is spreading on the Railway Station and its nearby areas and has become matter of concern for the health of travellers; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government for the drainage of this dirty water and to check the accumulation of water near the platform in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Dirty water is not accumulated on platform number three, but in the low lying areas near Bahadurgarh railway station. Since this water is discharged by the private colonies in the area, preventive measures are to be taken by the local authorities by providing proper drainage.

Introduction of Pairs of Trains

5328. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have introduced some pairs of new trains and increased capacity of certain existing trains to meet the summer rush during the months of April, May and June;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to ensure the supply of food, water and security of the passengers in these special trains;

(d) whether any special train is being introduced on the New Delhi-Trivandrum route in which there is excessive rush during summer days; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Railway are running about 1242 Summer Specials on as many as 25 routes in the country to clear Summer Rush. In addition loads of about 50 pairs of trains have also been augmented.

(c) Drinking water arrangements are provided at Stations and these arrangements are strengthen during the summer period. Instructions have been issued to the railways for strengthening the drinking water arrangements at all important stations. Steps taken include provision of water trollies, engaging hot weather watermen, taking assistance of voluntary organisation; availability of drinking water on train through Pantry cars and to ensure satisfactory catering arrangements from the static units enroute.

'Policing' is a State subject and therefore maintenance of Law and order and control of crime on railway premises, including railway stations and running trains is the responsibility of the State Government concerned, which they discharge through Government Railway Police. However, the Railways on their part maintain close coordination with GRP. Important trains are being escorted by the GRP during night time.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Due to lack of traffic justification, however load of Kerala Express will be augmented to the extent justified and feasible.

Passengers Amenities at Trivandrum Airport

5329. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the passenger amenities at Trivandrum International Airport are very poor;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take any steps for improving passenger amenities at the said Airport; and

(c) if so, the details of measures which have to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (c) Trivandrum International Airport is well equipped with passenger amenities adequate to cater to the needs of the travelling public. These amenities are at par with those of other international airports. Modification to the International Terminal Building at a cost of Rs. 2.02 crores is expected to be completed by December, 1997. With this, the peak hour capacity will increase from 400 to 550 passengers.

[Translation]

Out of order Telephone Lines in Kanpur

5330. SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone lines of Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh remain out of order for several hours and engage tunes are often heard as telephones and there are also complaints of non-materialisation of calls; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to improve and steamline the telephone system?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) No, Sir. The telephone system at Kanpur is working satisfactorily. However, some faults do occur in exchanges and in external plant due to which services of some of the subscirbers get affected some times. These faults are attended to within shortest possible time.

(b) A massive expansion and computerisation drive is launched which will further improve services in Kanpur telecom system.

Proposal to Run More Trains between Chandigarh and Delhi

5331. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to run one

more Shatabdi Express or a few more superfast trains between Chandigarh and Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Running of Trains on Un-economic Routes

5332. SHRI RAJABHAU THAKRE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the trains are being run on the un-economic routes in the different regions of the country.

(b) if so, the norms of economic and un-economic routes;

(c) whether there is any policy for running of trains on economic and un-economic routes in the country in the same ratio; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Trains are run on demand irrespective of the fact whether the route is economic or un-economic.

(b) The railway lines whose gross earnings are less than the total working expenses calculated on the marginal cost principle or whose net earnings (arrived at after meeting the working expenses are not sufficient to meet the prescribed dividend liability on the capital invested on them are treated as uneconomic and the remaining lines are treated as economic.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Survey for Edathua-Thiruvalla Rail Line

5333. SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allocated funds for conducting survey for Thakazhy-Edathua-Thiruvalla Railway line during last year's Railway Budget;

(b) if so, whether despite allocations for the above survey, nothing has been done by his Ministry;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct survey of the said railway line; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be conducted and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. Rs.3 lakhs had been provided in 1996-97 out of the total cost of Rs. 6 lakhs.

(b) to (d) The balance allocation have been made in 1997-98 and the survey would be completed in the current financial year.

[Translation]

Introduction of Train between Bulandshehar and Lucknow

5334. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to run a train from Bulandshehar to Lucknow;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any the request in this regard during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) and (c) Some representations have been received in this regard including from Shri S. P. Gautam, Shri Naunihal Singh, Shri Chhatarpal Singh and Shri Ashok Pradhan, MPs.

(d) Examined, but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Pending Projects

5335. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the projects of National Capital Territory of Delhi relating his Ministry are pending with the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof, project-wise and since when these are pending/under consideration;

(c) the estimated cost thereof;

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be sanctioned;

(e) the reasons for the delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) At present no project of National Capital Territory of Delhi is pending for approval of this Ministry.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.